

AGENDA ITEM 5: Delta Protection Advisory Committee appointments

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Requested Action: **Commission approval of proposed slate of Delta Protection Advisory Committee members**

Background: Public Resources Code section 29753(a) requires the Commission to appoint at least one advisory committee to provide recommendations regarding the diverse interests in the Delta. The statute further states that “the advisory committee shall include representatives of state agencies and other stakeholders with interests in the Delta’s ecosystem, water supply, and socioeconomic sustainability, including, but not limited to, its recreational, agricultural, flood control, environmental, and water resources, and state, local and utility infrastructure. The Commission shall encourage participation of various federal agencies, including the United States Bureau of Reclamation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and others as appropriate.”

Most recently, the Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) has consisted of 11 members, some of whom have taken new positions and are no longer active. In the past 6 months, DPC has convened two meetings of the DPAC; as part of these meetings, the DPAC (and an appointed subcommittee) was asked to make suggestions to the DPC for DPAC charter revisions, including suggested membership on the DPAC.

At its January 2014 meeting, the DPC approved a revised charter for the DPAC, including 15 members representing the following categories: Delta business (2); Delta agriculture (2); Delta recreation (2); Delta flood entity (1); Delta organization (1); Delta general public (1); State agency (2); Delta conservation/habitat entity (2); Delta water exporter (1); and Delta utility/related infrastructure (1).

Following a solicitation of existing DPAC members and a call for applications from the DPC interested parties and media lists, DPC staff received a total of 16 applications for 13 positions on the DPAC. We are still soliciting to fill two of the slots: State agency (CA State Parks) and Delta utility/related infrastructure, and will bring proposed appointments back to the Commission at a future meeting. In recommending these appointments, we first recommended existing DPAC members willing to continue their service, and then gave consideration to the geographic diversity represented by DPAC applicants. These appointed members will serve for three year terms and can be re-appointed.

The following are the proposed appointments to the Delta Protection Advisory Committee, with the category they will represent in parenthesis:

Gilbert Labrie and Bill Wells (Delta business)

DPC March 27, 2014 meeting

David Strecker and Al Medvitz (Delta agriculture)

Jack Michael and Jeff Hart (Delta recreation)

Melinda Terry (Delta flood entity)

Mark Pruner (Delta organization)

Barbara Daly (Delta general public)

Jim Starr (State agency)

Aaron Will and Ryan Luster (Delta conservation/habitat entity)

Byron Buck (Delta water exporter)

The following pages show a matrix of DPAC applicants and the categories they applied under, followed by the full set of applications. For existing DPAC members, we only asked them to fill out the contact information; we have also included their previous application.